

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application )

Conf. No.: 4560

Applicant(s): Kawabe et al. )

Divisional of )

Serial No.: 09/495,233 )

Filed: January 31, 2000 )

For: INFORMATION STORAGE DEVICE )

Art Unit: 2653 )

Examiner: Tran, Thang V. )

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date

February 27, 2004

Date

Express Mail No. EV032735754US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

**Customer No. 24978**

February 27, 2004

300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Tel: (312) 360-0080  
Fax: (312) 360-9315  
P:\DOCS\0941\69558\425621.DOC

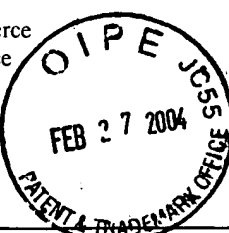
Respectfully submitted,  
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: 

Josh C. Snider

Registration No. 47,954

Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-88)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Attorney Docket No.: 0941.69558		Divisional of Serial No.: 09/495,233	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: Kawabe et al.			
				Filing Date: January 31, 2000		Group: 2653	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	5,457,671	Oct. 1995	Takata et al.				
	5,499,230	March 1996	Yanagi				
	5,577,009	Nov. 1996	Takamine				
	5,581,521	Dec. 1996	Nomura et al.				
	5,598,304	Jan. 1997	Choi et al.				
	5,598,396	Jan. 1997	Horibe et al.				
	5,675,562	Oct. 1997	Yanagi				
	6,154,425	Nov. 2000	Iida et al.				

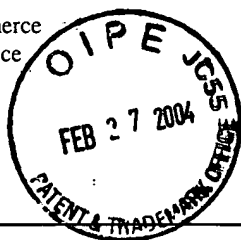
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation		
						Yes	No	
	30-37876	Feb. 19, 1991	Japan			Abs.		
	90-81940	Mar. 28, 1997	Japan			Abs.		
	91-02135	Apr. 15, 1997	Japan			Abs.		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
----------	-----------------

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce  
(Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office



Attorney Docket No.: 0941.69558

Divisional of  
Serial No.: 09/495,233

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Kawabe et al.

Filing Date: January 31, 2000

Group: 2653

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,157,599	Dec. 2000	Yamashita et al.			
	6,310,851	Oct. 2001	Tobita et al.			
	5,802,024	Sept. 1998	Saga			
	5,121,370	June 1992	Yanagi			
	5,111,349	May 1992	Moon			
	5,604,720	Feb. 1997	Kimura et al.			
	5,699,332	Dec. 1997	Nakano			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	2-79223	Mar. 19, 1990	Japan			Abs.	
	1-260679	Oct. 17, 1989	Japan			Abs.	
	63-197073	Aug. 15, 1988	Japan			Abs.	

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.